

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data processing apparatus comprising:
  - a first device; and
  - 5 a second device detachably or fixedly connected to said first device,
    - wherein said first device includes
    - second communication means for communicating with said second device,
  - 10 first storage means for storing a first application,
  - first control means for executing said first application, and for controlling said second communication means and said first storage means, and
  - wherein said second device includes
  - 15 third communication means for communicating with said first device,
  - fourth communication means for communicating with an external device,
  - second storage means for storing a second application, and
  - 20 second control means for controlling said second application, and for controlling said third communication means, said fourth communication means and said second storage means.
- 25 2. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein, before or after a first process request has been received from said fourth communication means, said second control means activates said second application to process said first process request;

5            wherein, when all or part of said first process request is a second process request that is to be processed by said first application, said second application transmits said second process request to said second communication means through said third communication means;

10          wherein, before or after said second process request is received from said second communication means, said first control means activates said first application to process said second process request; and

15          wherein said first application processes said second process request, and transmits a process response to said third communication means through said second communication means.

3. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1,  
wherein, before or after a first process request has been received  
20 from said fourth communication means, said second control means activates said second application to process said first process request;

25          wherein said second application generates a second process request that is an instruction to obtain information required for processing said first process request, and transmits

said second process request to said second communication means through said third communication means;

wherein said first control means processes said second process request, and transmits a process response to said third communication means through said second communication means.

4. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first device includes output means for outputting information;

10 wherein, before or after a first process request has been received from said fourth communication means, said second control means activates a second application to process said first process request;

15 wherein said second application transmits, to said second communication means through said third communication means, information that is generated by processing said first process request; and

20 wherein said first control means transmits, to said output means, said information received from said second communication means.

5. The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first device includes output means for outputting information;

25 wherein, before or after a first process request has been

received from said fourth communication means, said second control means activates a second application to process said first process request;

wherein, when said first process request has been  
5 processed, said second application transmits, to said second communication means through said third communication means, additional information that is added to said first process request; and

wherein said first control means transmits, to said output  
10 means, said additional information received from said second communication means.

6. The data processing apparatus according to claim 2,  
wherein said second process request is an instruction for  
15 requesting the acquisition of information required for processing  
said first process request.

7. The data processing apparatus according to claim 2,  
wherein said second process request is an instruction for  
20 requesting the acquisition of secure information required for  
performing secure processing for said first process request.

8. The data processing apparatus according to claim 2,  
wherein said second process request is an instruction for  
25 requesting the supplementary process for an insufficient numerical

value required for numerical processing for said first process request.

9. The data processing apparatus according to claim 7,  
5 wherein said first device includes:

output means for outputting information; and  
input means for accepting the entry of information,  
wherein said output means outputs data to request the  
entry of secure process information, and said input means accepts  
10 secure process information entered following the reception of said  
output data.

10. The data processing apparatus according to claim 8,  
wherein said first device includes:

15 first communication means for communicating with an  
external device;  
output means for outputting information; and  
input means for accepting the information that is entered,  
wherein said first application employs said first  
20 communication means to communicate with a predetermined  
server across a network, and in accordance with an instruction  
received by said input means, said second process request is  
processed.

25 11. A data processing apparatus comprising:

a first device; and

a second device detachably or fixedly connected to said first device,

wherein said first device includes

5                   second communication means for communicating with said second device,

third communication means for communicating with an external device of said data processing apparatus,

first storage means for storing a first application,

10                  first control means for executing said first application, and for controlling said second communication means and said first storage means, and

wherein said second device includes

15                  fourth communication means for communicating with said first device,

second storage means for storing a second application, and

20                  second control means for controlling said second application, and for controlling said fourth communication means and said second storage means.

12. The data processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein, upon receiving a first process request from said third communication means, said first control means transmits said first process request to said fourth communication means through said

second communication means;

wherein, before or after said first process request has been received from said fourth communication means, said second control means activates a second application to process said first process request;

wherein, when all or part of said first process request is a second process request that is to be processed by said first application, said second application transmits said second process request to said second communication means through said fourth communication means;

wherein, before or after said second process request is received from said second communication means, said first control means activates said first application to process said second process request; and

wherein said first application processes said second process request, and transmits, to said fourth communication means through said second communication means, a second process response indicating the process results;

wherein said first application processes said second process request, and transmits to said fourth communication means, through said second communication means, a second process response indicating the process results;

wherein, upon receiving said second process response from said fourth communication means, said second application employs said second process response to process said first

process request, and transmits to said second communication means, through said fourth communication means, a first process response indicating the process results; and

wherein, upon receiving said first process response from  
5 said second communication means, said first control means  
transmits said first process response to said third communication  
means.

13. The data processing apparatus according to claim  
10 11, wherein, upon receiving a first process request from said third communication means, said first control means transmits said first process request to said fourth communication means through said second communication means;

wherein, before or after said first process request has  
15 been received from said fourth communication means, said second control means activates a second application to process said first process request;

wherein said second application generates a second process request that is an instruction to obtain information  
20 required for processing said first process request, and transmits said second process request to said second communication means through said fourth communication means;

wherein said first control means processes said second process request received from said second communication means,  
25 and transmits, to said fourth communication means through said

second communication means, a second process response indicating the process results;

wherein, upon receiving said second process response from said fourth communication means, said second application  
5 employs said second process response to process said first process request, and transmits to said second communication means, through said fourth communication means, a first process response indicating the process results; and

wherein, upon receiving said first process response from  
10 said second communication means, said first control means transmits said first process response to said third communication means.

14. The data processing apparatus according to claim  
15 11, wherein said first device includes output means for outputting information;

wherein, upon receiving a first process request from said third communication means, said first control means transmits said first process request to said fourth communication means through  
20 said second communication means;

wherein, before or after said first process request has been received from said fourth communication means, said second control means activates a second application to process said first process request;

25 wherein said second application transmits, to said

second communication means through said fourth communication means, information that is generated by processing said first process request; and

5           wherein said first control means transmits, to said output means, said information received from said second communication means.

15. The data processing apparatus according to claim  
11, wherein said first device includes output means for outputting  
10 information;

wherein, upon receiving a first process request from said third communication means, said first control means transmits said first process request to said fourth communication means through said second communication means;

15           wherein, before or after said first process request has been received from said fourth communication means, said second control means activates a second application to process said first process request;

20           wherein, when said first process request has been processed, said second application transmits, to said second communication means through said third communication means, additional information that is added to said first process request; and

25           wherein said first control means transmits, to said output means, said additional information received from said second

communication means.

16. A data processing method, for a data processing apparatus including a first device and a second device detachably or fixedly connected to said first device, whereby an external process request is processed by the cooperative employment of said first device and said second device, comprising:

5 a first step of said second device receiving, according to a third protocol, a first process request, which is a process request received from an external communication terminal;

10 a second step of, before or after said first step, said second device activating said second application to process said first process request;

15 a third step of said second application determining whether all or part of said first process request includes a second process request that is to be processed by said first device;

20 a fourth step of, when it is ascertained at said third step that said second process request is included, said second device transmitting said second process request to said first device in accordance with a second protocol;

25 a fifth step of said first device receiving said second process request in accordance with said second protocol;

a sixth step of, before or after said fifth step, said first device activating a first application to process said second process request;

a seventh step of said first application processing said second process request;

an eighth step of said first device transmitting a second process response, indicating the process results obtained at said 5 seventh step, to said second device in accordance with said second protocol;

a ninth step of said second device receiving said second process response in accordance with said second protocol;

10 a tenth aspect of said second application employing said second process response to process said first process request; and

an eleventh step of said first device transmitting a first process response, indicating the process results obtained at said tenth step, in accordance with said third protocol.

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17. A data processing method, for a data processing apparatus including a first device and a second device detachably or fixedly connected to said first device, whereby an external process request is processed by the cooperative employment of 20 said first device and said second device, comprising:

a first step of said second device receiving, according to a third protocol, a first process request, which is a process request received from an external communication terminal;

25 a second step of, before or after said first step, said second device activating said second application to process said

first process request;

a third step of said second application determining whether there is a lack of information to process said first process request, or whether the acquisition of lacking information from said first device is required;

a fourth step of, when it is ascertained at said third step that the acquisition of said information is required, said second device generating a second process request that is an instruction to request the acquisition of said information that is lacking;

10 a fifth step of said second device transmitting said second process request to said first device in accordance with said second protocol;

a sixth step of said first device receiving said second process request in accordance with said second protocol;

15 a seventh step of said first device processing said second process request;

an eighth step of said first device transmitting a second process response, indicating the process results obtained at said seventh step, to said second device in accordance with said second protocol;

20 a ninth step of said second device receiving said second process response in accordance with said second protocol;

a tenth step of said second application employing said second process response to process said first process request;

25 and

an eleventh step of said first device transmitting a first process response, indicating the process results obtained at said tenth step, in accordance with said third protocol.

- 5           18. A data processing method, for a data processing apparatus including a first device and a second device detachably or fixedly connected to said first device, whereby an external process request is processed by the cooperative employment of said first device and said second device, comprising:
- 10           a first step of said second device receiving, according to a third protocol, a first process request, which is a process request received from an external communication terminal;
- 15           a second step of, before or after said first step, said second device activating said second application to process said first process request;
- a third step of said second application processing said first process request, and generating process result information;
- a fourth step of said second device transmitting said process result information to said first device in accordance with
- 20           said second protocol;
- a fifth step of said first device receiving said process result information in accordance with said second protocol; and
- a sixth step of said first device outputting said process result information.

19. A data processing method, for a data processing apparatus including a first device and a second device detachably or fixedly connected to said first device, whereby an external process request is processed by the cooperative employment of  
5       said first device and said second device, comprising:
- a first step of said second device receiving, according to a third protocol, a first process request, which is a process request received from an external communication terminal, and additional information that is added to said first process request;
- 10           a second step of, before or after said first step, said second device activating said second application to process said first process request;
- a third step of said second application processing said first process request;
- 15           a fourth step of said second device transmitting said additional information to said first device in accordance with said second protocol;
- a fifth step of said first device receiving said additional information in accordance with said second protocol; and  
20           a sixth step of said first device outputting said additional information.

20. A data processing method, for a data processing apparatus including a first device and a second device detachably or fixedly connected to said first device, whereby an external  
25       process request is processed by the cooperative employment of

process request is processed by the cooperative employment of said first device and said second device, comprising:

- a first step of said first device receiving, in accordance with a third protocol, a first process request, which is a process request received from an external communication terminal;
- a second step of said first device transmitting said first process request to said second device in accordance with a second protocol;
- a third step of said second device receiving said first process request according to a second protocol;
- a fourth step of, before or after said first step, said second device activating said second application to process said first process request;
- a fifth step of said second application determining whether all or part of said first process request includes a second process request that is to be processed by said first device;
- a sixth step of, when it is ascertained at said third step that said second process request is included, said second device transmitting said second process request to said first device in accordance with a second protocol;
- a seventh step of said first device receiving said second process request in accordance with said second protocol;
- an eighth step of, before or after said seventh step, said first device activating a first application to process said second process request;

a ninth step of said first application processing said second process request;

5 a tenth step of said first device transmitting a second process response, indicating the process results obtained at said ninth step, to said second device in accordance with said second protocol;

an eleventh step of said second device receiving said second process response in accordance with said second protocol;

10 a twelfth step of said second application employing said second process response to process said first process request; and

15 a thirteenth step of said second device transmitting, to said first device a first process response, indicating the process results obtained at said twelfth step, in accordance with said second protocol;

a fourteenth step of said first device receiving said first process response in accordance with said second protocol; and

a fifteenth step of said first device transmitting said first process response in accordance with said third protocol.

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.21. The first device according to any one of claims 1 to 15.

25 22. The second device according to any one of claims 1 to 15.